

15698/me/no

PROTECTIVE CLAIMS

1. A device for the feeding of free-range poultry kept in a coop, poultry for fattening in particular, and broilers for preference, with at least one feed delivery pipe held above the floor of the coop and capable of being raised and lowered, which has a series of branch apertures, each of which is allocated to a bowl device suspended on the feed delivery pipe, which features a feed bowl located beneath the downpipe, with bowl cupola formed from grid bars in spoke fashion, whereby the downpipe consists of an inner cylinder departing from the branch aperture, as well as an outer cylinder encompassing the inner cylinder, on which the bowls are suspended by means of the grid bars of their bowl cupola in such a way that, when the feed delivery pipe is lowered, it comes to rest, in particular on the floor of the coop, whereby the outer cylinder is guided in a rotatable manner as well as in a raisable and lowerable manner on the inner cylinder, and at least one lifting stop is provided for, delimiting the lifting and lowering path, characterised in that the outer cylinder (8) and the inner cylinder (7) consist in each case of adjacent cylinder sections (8', 8'', 7', 7'') co-axial to each other, whereby face peripheral areas of the cylinder sections (8', 8'', 7', 7'') turned towards each other are connected to one another by bridging elements (9), which bridge a gap area (11, 22) which corresponds to the interval distance between the cylinder sections (8', 8'', 7', 7'').
2. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the inner cylinder (7) is designed in such a way that its end-side cylinder section (7'') covers the gap area (11, 22) between the cylinder sections (8', 8'') of the outer cylinder (8), when the outer cylinder (8) is moved by means of the raising of the feed delivery pipe

(1) into a position which is lowered in relation to the inner cylinder (7), in which the lifting stops (14) of the inner cylinder (7) and the outer cylinder (8) are in mutually opposed positions.

3. A device according to one of claims 1 and 2, characterised in that the lifting stop (14) consists of a recess (13) of the cylinder inner surface (12) of the outer cylinder (8) and at least one abutment shoulder (24) for the recess (13) projecting radially from the inner cylinder (7).
4. A device according to claim 3, characterised in that each abutment shoulder (24) for the recess (13) is a part of a radial projection (25) in a form similar to a collar flange.
5. A device according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that each bridging element (9) is a flat web, of which the web surface plane is aligned radially to the axis of the individual inner cylinder (7) or outer cylinder (8) in each case.
6. A device according to claim 5, characterised in that the bridging elements (9) of the outer cylinder (8), present as flat webs, feature the form of paddles or vanes (10) projecting over the periphery of the outer cylinder (8) into the feed bowl (4).
7. A device according to one of the foregoing claims, characterised in that the outer surface (20) of an upper cylinder section of the outer cylinder (8) is designed as a threaded spindle (15), and that the free ends of the grid bars (5) of the bowl cupola (6) are connected to a screw ring (17), which is screwed onto the area of the outer cylinder (8) designed as a threaded spindle (15).

8. A device according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that it features at least one rotational stop, delimiting the rotational path of the outer cylinder (8) in relation to the inner cylinder (7).
9. A device according to claim 8, characterised in that each rotational stop features at least one elevation (21, 21'), arranged in a predetermined area of the outer surface (20) of the inner cylinder (7), as well as at least one driver dog (19) located on the inner surface (18) of the outer cylinder (8), into the rotational path of which, at the rotation of the outer cylinder (8) about the inner cylinder (7), the elevation (21, 21') projects.
10. A device according to claim 9, characterised in that the predetermined area of the outer surface (20) of the inner cylinder (7) is its upper head part, which is offset in relation to the other part of the inner cylinder (7) as a result of reduced cylinder diameter.
11. A device according to one of claims 9 and 10, characterised in that the outer cylinder (8) features at least one spring-elastic engagement cam (27) in its area designed as a threaded spindle (15).
12. A device according to claim 11, characterised in that each engagement cam (27) is designed as an engagement cam (27) which is spring-elastic in the radial direction.
13. A device according to one of claims 1 to 12, characterised in that the screw ring (17) of the bowl cupola (6) features cut-outs (37) on its inner circumference surface (36), with which the engagement cams (27) are capable of engaging with positive fit.

14. A device according to claim 13, characterised in that the engagement cams (27) and the cut-outs (37) feature run-in flanks (38, 39) arranged obliquely to the direction of rotation.
15. A device according to one of the foregoing claims, characterised in that the feed bowl (4) features a feed plate, which in the area of its plate edge (40) features connecting elements (41, 42) for connecting to the bowl cupola (6).
16. A device according to claim 15, characterised in that the connecting elements (41, 42) feature a flap joint (43) and at least one locking or retaining element (44).
17. A device according to one of claims 15 and 16, characterised in that the ring surface of the feed plate, which runs around the plate centre located beneath the downpipe (3) is subdivided into feeding sections.
18. A device according to claim 17, characterised in that each feeding section consists of at least one pocket, one field, or similar formed area (45) delimited by depression or elevation (21, 21').
19. A device according to one of claims 17 and 18, characterised in that the number of feeding sections is equal to a multiple of the number of the bridging elements (9) of the outer cylinder (8), designed as paddles or vanes (10).